

Claims

1. A frame control method for controlling a transport
5 frame used for transmitting a data unit (TB) via a
dedicated channel between network elements (2, 3; 10) of a
communication system having different types of connections,
comprising the steps of:
(a) encapsulating said data unit (TB) into said transport
10 frame; and
(b) selecting a frame type coding of said transport frame
in accordance with a connection type of said dedicated
channel.
- 15 2. A frame control method according to claim 1, wherein
said frame type coding defines specific control information
fields of the transport frame and its bit number.
- 20 3. A frame control method according to claim 2, wherein
said specific control information fields include a
transport format indicator field the bit number of which is
determined on the basis of the number of different
transport format indicators allowed for said dedicated
channel.
- 25 4. A frame control method according to claim 3, wherein
the value of said transport format indicator field defines
if and how a whole original data unit set is split into
different data units to be transported via said dedicated
30 channel.
5. A frame control method according to claim 3 or 4,
wherein the value of said transport format indicator field
defines the presence and/or bit number of another one of
35 said specific control information fields.
6. A frame control method according to claim 5, wherein
said other one of said specific control information fields

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is a frame reliability information field which is provided when the value of said transport format indicator field indicates a high bit rate transmission.

- 5 7. A frame control method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said frame type coding is selected in a set-up phase of said dedicated channel based on corresponding set-up parameters of said dedicated channel.
- 10 8. A frame control method according to claim 1, wherein said frame type coding does not include a channel indicator field, if one transport connection is allocated to said dedicated channel.
- 15 9. A frame control method according to any one of the proceeding claims, wherein said frame control method is used in a user plane interface of a WCDMA system.
- 20 10. A frame control method according to claim 9, wherein said dedicated channel is an AAL 2 channel and said data unit is a user plane data unit.
- 25 11. A frame control apparatus for controlling a transport frame used for transmitting a data unit (TB) via a dedicated channel between network elements (2, 3; 10) of a communication system having different types of connections, comprising:
- 30 (a) means (12) for encapsulating said data unit (TB) into said transport frame; and
- (b) means (13) for selecting a frame type coding of said transport frame in accordance with a connection type of said dedicated channel.
- 35 12. A frame control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said network elements (2, 3; 10) comprise a base station subsystem (2) and a radio network controller (3) of a mobile communication system (6).

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